

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 DODE-00 TRSE-00 PM-07

SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 L-03

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R 141645Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3733

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3563

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN, UR

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF MILITARY: BUDGETS (ROB) EXPERTS GROUP

REF: A. STATE 049098

B. USUN 856

1. WE DISCUSSED REFTELS WITH FONOFF DIRECTOR DISARMAMENT OFFICE (FONTANA GIUSTI) AND URGED THAT ITALIANS CONSIDER NOMINATING EXPERT IN EVENT BELGIUM SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN EXPERTS GROUP OR SHOULD ADDITIONAL SLOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO WEO COUNTRY. FONTANA, WHO APPEARED FULLY CONVERSANT WITH SUBJECT, HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REPORT FROM ITALIAN UN MISSION WITH NOTIFICATION OF US DECISION TO PARTICIPATE AND INDICATION OF US INTEREST IN POSSIBLE GOI EXPERT PARTICIPATION.

2. FONTANA TOLD US THAT, DESPITE SOME MISGIVINGS CONCERNING ADVISABILITY OF WESTERN AND SPECIFICALLY ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN EXPERTS GROUP, HE HAD INQUIRED SOME TIME AGO IN MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE AND TREASURY AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF SOMEONE WITH SUFFICIENT EXPERTISE TO SERVE ON GROUP SHOULD GOI
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PARTICIPATION BE DEEMED ADVISABLE AT SOME POINT. RESULTS OF

HIS SOUNDINGS, FONTANA REPORTED, WERE DISAPPOINTING IN THAT NEITHER DEFENSE NOR TREASURY COULD IDENTIFY QUALIFIED EXPERT AND, FURTHERMORE, BOTH MINISTRIES EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE TO RELEASE EXPERT FOR EXTENDED PERIOD EVEN IF ONE COULD BE FOUND. FONTANA AGREED TO RAISE MATTER AGAIN IF CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED COMPELLING NEED FOR ITALIAN PARTICIPATION BUT HE WAS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT RESULTS. HE ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING BELGIUM AND OTHER WEO PARTICIPATION.

3. IN DISCUSSING DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROB EXPERTS GROUP AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS RELEASED AS RESULT OF REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS, FONTANA LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THERE WAS ANY CONFUSION IN HIS MIND CONCERNING THE TWO (REFTEL B, PARA 3). AT SAME TIME, HE CONFIRMED THAT GOI WAS OPPOSED TO LATTER GROUP ON GROUNDS THAT IT WAS HIGHLY PREMATURE, TO SAY THE LEAST. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUDGET, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS, CONSULTANTS
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Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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